



Pomona Chapter News Flash

04 August 2013

Written, Edited, and Published by: Rachel F.

Junior Corner

A message from the Junior Organizer

Good Luck to the Pomona Chapter Junior/Young Rider teams as they head to Junior Championships at the Del Mar Fairgrounds this September.

Olivia, Hayley, Angelica, Renee, Marissa, Kylee, Kristen, Emily, Cassidy, Gina, Erin, and Aliya will be representing the chapter at Southern Championships this year. The Junior team would like to thank all of their sponsors who have supported them this year and helped make this experience possible. We are looking forward to a fun and exciting show.

- Jennifer Mays

The Pomona Chapter Junior Team is a team that was designed to support young riders experience the sport of dressage. The team consists of a wide range of riders, from Training level thru FEI levels. Through their support of one another and hard work throughout the year, the Junior team provides a fun community for everyone involved.

If you are interested in sponsoring the Junior team, please see Jennifer Mays at today's show.

Junior Dialogue

By Olivia Jones

My very first dressage show as a Junior/Young Rider was a long time ago, but I will never forget it. I got disqualified for having all four of my horse's feet out of the arena. Since then I have had two

trainers, two more horses, ten championship shows, and countless ribbons. So with bittersweet feelings, I guess it is time to transition to a new division, Adult Amateur.

The Dressage Divas (the Pomona Chapter Junior Team) was the saving grace for my riding career. The teenage years are very difficult riding wise and the Divas came at the best possible time. Suddenly accomplishments I never thought were possible were becoming a reality. Championships became a real option, not to mention all my friends that I met through the Divas that were also going. I started riding more regularly, getting competitive again, and really caring about the riders around me. We became a support system, having girls nights, pool parties, and dinners. When my first Championships came around we honestly just wanted everyone to do well and to have fun with our horses.

Today, that original team is spread across the country, yet somehow those friendships still remain.



Olivia Jones and Pikard at JR/YR Championships



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Adult Amateur Clinic

By Maria Michaelson

I was so excited that Wasabi and I were a lucky pair to get to opportunity to attend the CDS Southern Region Adult Amateur Clinic from the wait list and represent the Pomona Chapter. The event was held at Eastvale Equestrian Center which is owned by Susie Peacock. It is a well-planned and intimate training facility. Sabine Schut-Kery, the clinician, was outstanding in her two days of training sessions. Everyone was friendly, at ease, encouraged, and supportive of each other. We had all come to ride and to learn.

Sabine was amusing, encouraging, positive, and knowledgeable in her approach to teaching us at our very different levels. One of the foremost key concepts that I became aware of was that I must always "multi-task". Besides thinking and feeling, I must always be aware of what both my hands and legs are doing, independently. Where is my inside leg? Is my inside leg doing what it is supposed to be doing? Where should my outside leg be? Is my outside leg doing what it is supposed to be doing? Is my inside wrist asking him to flex and soften? Is he giving in? Is he leaning to the outside or inside? Have I corrected it? Am I tightening my core? . . . All at the walk, trot, and canter. If I am asking for something to be corrected and he does it, I need to praise and repeat again to re-assure that the correct response has been learned.

Another key factor was keeping my hands even more quiet. This meant

making my hands independent from my horses trot so as to not become a negative to his mouth. Independent AND quiet, that's not an easy task, but it must be learned. As I begin putting these elements into my riding, it made significant improvements on the spot and in my continued lessons thereafter.

Thanks you again CDS and the Pomona Chapter for this invaluable opportunity.

Educational Events

Alfredo Hernandez Clinic:

Hosted by the Pomona Chapter and organized by Tiffany Kell Brinton

\$75 per ride or \$140 for both days

Dates: September 6-7, 2013

Location: Fox Creek Ranch, Chino Hills

Haul-in fee; \$20 per day

Stall fee: \$25 per night

Contact Tiffany Kell Brinton if you are interested in participating at

teamtkell@aol.com

Championships:

The CDS Year-End Championships has been moved up to September 19-22, 2013. This means that the qualification deadline for Championships has also moved up. Qualifying for Championships must be completed by **August 26th**. Check this link for qualifying requirements: <https://www.california-dressage.org/qualifiers.html>

Keep the updated qualifying close date in mind as you move forward during this show season. **22 Days Left to Qualify!**